

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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C O N F I D E N T I A L PRAGUE 0237

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OEXC, TECH, TGEN, CZ
SUBJECT: EXCHANGES AGREEMENT: S&T PROGRAM DOCUMENT DRAFT

REFS A. STATE 20499, B. PRAGUE 0234

1. AT JANUARY 26 MEETING FMTIR AMERICAN DESK OFFICER SLAMENEC AND CAS INTERNATIONAL DIVISION REPRESENTATIVE KLIMENTOVA "UNOFFICIAL Y" PRESENTED PAO QUINN AND SCIENCE OFFICER WICKHAM GOC WORKING DRAFT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IMPLEMENTING SECTION OF EXCHANGES AGREEMENT, INCORPORATING PREVIOUSLY OFFERED U.S. DRAFT.
2. NEITHER QUESTION OF ONE-VERSUS-TWO PROGRAM DOCUMENTS NOR SIGNING SCENARIO DISCUSSED.
3. AMERICANS EXPLAINED DEPARTMENT'S OBJECTION TO ROLLING ITS SEVERAL PROGRAM ARTICLES (ARTICLES 3, 4, 5, 6 AND 8) INTO ONE ARTICLE.
4. GOC COUNTERPROPOSAL IS TO KEEP AMERICAN ARTICLES, WITH ONE EXCEPTION, AND TO INCORPORATE GOC'S PROPOSED RESEARCH AREAS IN THESE ARTICLES, PLUS ADDING AN ADDITIONAL ARTICLE (8) NOT COVERED IN AMERICAN DRAFT.

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5. GOC SUGGESTS PROPOSED U.S. ARTICLE FIVE ON EXCHANGE OF HEALTH SPECIALISTS COULD MORE PROPERLY BE INCLUDED IN CULTURAL-EDUCATIONAL IMPLEMENTING PLAN. IT POINTS OUT BASIC EXCHANGES AGREEMENT CONTAINS "HEALTH CARE AND MEDICAL RESEARCH" ITEMS AS ARTICLE FIVE OF "CULTURE, EDUCATION AND OTHER FIELDS" SECTION, AND HEALTH ARTICLE IS CONTAINED AS ARTICLE 13 UNDER "OTHER AREAS OF COOPERATION" IN ORIGINAL U.S. IMPLEMENTING DRAFT. FMTIR SAYS

HEALTH AND MEDICAL QUESTIONS DO NOT COME UNDER ITS JURISDICTION
AND FOR BUREAUCRATIC REASONS SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN
CULTURAL-EDUCATIONAL SECTION.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE ADVISE IF THIS ACCEPTABLE TO DEPARTMENT

.
EMBASSY IS CONCERNED THAT IN MAINTAINING BALANCE OF EDUCATIONAL-
CULTURAL VERSUS SCIENTIFIC GRANTS, WE MAY FIND
GOC UNDOING OUR EFFORTS BY TRYING TO INCLUDE HEALTH GRANTS AS
PART OF EDUCATIONAL-CULTURAL TOTAL, WHEN THEY ARE CLEARLY
SCIENTIFIC.

7. COMMENT: WORKING DISCUSSIONS REMAIN AT TECHNICAL-EDITORIAL
LEVEL. EMBASSY BELIEVES SCHEDULING NEXT SESSION WITH SLAMENEC
ON FEBRUARY 9 WOULD BE ABOUT RIGHT IN OUR TACTICAL APPROACH
TO THE PACING OF THESE TALKS. ACCORDINGLY, WE WOULD APPRECIATE
DEPARTMENT'S COMMENTS ON LATEST GOC VERSION OF S AND T PROGRAM
DRAFT DOCUMENT SUBMITTED REF B BY NO LATER THAN COB FEBRUARY
7. SLAMENEC STRESSES THAT, ONCE ACCEPTABLE LANGUAGE FOR S AND T
DRAFT IS FOUND, DOCUMENT MUST STILL BE CLEARED BY VARIOUS
MINISTRIES INVOLVED, AND THEN MAKE ITS WAY THROUGH MFA FOR
POLITICAL-LEGAL POLISHING--A PROCESS THAT WILL TAKE A FEW WEEKS
TO COMPLETE. OF COURSE, OUR OWN CLEARANCE PROCEDURES IN WASHINGTON
WILL ALSO GIVE US LEVERAGE IN TIMING CONCLUDING STEPS.

10. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE ADVISE ON ACCEPTABILITY OF
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DRAFT SUBMITTED REF B SUGGESTING ALTERNATE LANGUAGE
AS APPROPRIATE.
BYRNE

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NNN

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